

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS**

Applicant: Ferman, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

Examiner:

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AUTOMATIC DETECTION OF  
CONTINUOUS-TONE REGIONS IN DOCUMENT IMAGES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR §1.98**

Chernoff Vilhauer McClung & Stenzel, LLP  
1600 ODS Tower  
601 S W Second Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97204-3157

January 28, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents

Dear Sir:

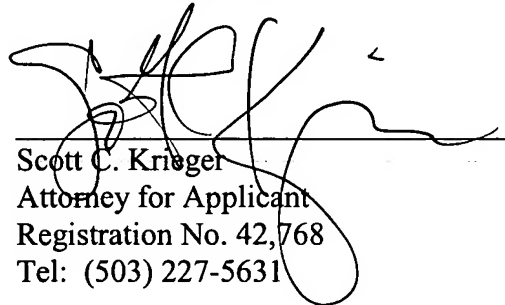
Applicants submit herewith a list of the publications of which they are aware and which they desire to have considered by the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement will not be regarded as an admission that any patent or publication or combination of patents referred to herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability under 37 CFR §1.56(b) unless specifically designated as such.

A list of the publications is enclosed herewith on the attached page of Form PTO-1449 (Modified). Applicant would respectfully request that the Examiner initial this form where indicated, and return an acknowledgment copy to the applicant to confirm that the listed references were received and considered.

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file.

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott C. Krieger  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 42,768  
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FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR  
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.  
7146.0186

SERIAL NO.

APPLICANT: Ferman, et al.

FILING DATE  
Concurrently herewith

GROUP

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	AA	5,177,795	Jan. 5, 1993	Tanioka, et al.			
	AB	4,998,122	Mar. 5, 1991	Kanno, et al.			
	AC	5,202,933	Apr. 13, 1993	Bloomberg			
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	AK	5,892,843	Apr. 6, 1999	Zhou, et al.			
	AL	5,587,808	Dec. 24, 1996	Hagihara, et al.			
	AM	5,767,978	June 16, 1998	Revankar, et al.			
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	AV	6,393,150	May 21, 2002	Lee, et al.			
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	AX	6,424,742	July 23, 2002	Yamamoto, et al.			
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	AAB	US20020076107	June 20, 2002	Loce, Robert P.; et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	BA							
	BB							

**OTHER ART**

	CA	
	CB	
	CC	
	CD	
	CE	
	CF	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Information Disclosure Statement

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January 28, 2004 (11:26AM)